

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace, without prejudice, all previous versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-29 (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system comprising a host water treatment apparatus and a separable water treatment component, said component being useable in the host apparatus, wherein the water treatment component has an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus for communicating and/or transmitting data between the separable treatment component and the water treatment apparatus when the separable water treatment component is mounted to the apparatus; and means for sanitizing and/or cleaning one or more parts of the host apparatus, the means for sanitizing being either part of the separable water treatment component or being a separate sanitizing component that is adapted to be incorporated into the apparatus in place of the separable water treatment component.

31. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the co-operation between the water treatment component and the host apparatus is either one-way or two-way.

32. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the component circuit and the host circuit communicate via one or more of the following transmittable waveforms: radio, infrared, optical and magnetic.

33. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the component circuit and the host circuit communicate by physical electrical contact.

34. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein co-operation of the component circuit and the host circuit is only possible when the water treatment component is conjoined with the host apparatus.

35. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the component circuit and/or the host circuit includes a memory capacity.

36. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein each electronic circuit can read and/or interrogate the other electrical circuit.

37. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the electrical circuit in the host apparatus includes a central processor, and the electrical circuit in the water treatment component includes a data chip.

38. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the electronic circuit of the water treatment component provides an enablement signal to the electronic circuit of the host apparatus, and/or vice versa.

39. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 38, wherein the enablement signal includes means for the water treatment component or host apparatus to control the other part.

40. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the water treatment component and host inter-co-operate.

41. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the electronic circuit of the water treatment component includes at least a data tag.

42. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 41, wherein the presence of the data tag is identified by the electronic circuit of the host apparatus.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) A separable treatment component useable with a host water treatment apparatus, said component having an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus for communicating and/or transmitting data between the separable treatment component and the water treatment apparatus when the separable water treatment component is mounted to the apparatus, the component ~~comprising~~ including a cartridge containing ion exchange resin.

49. (Currently Amended) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the component is a water treatment component adapted to provide a water treatment system in co-operation with the host apparatus.

50. (Previously Presented). A separable treatment component useable with a host water treatment apparatus, said component having an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus for communicating and/or transmitting data between the separable treatment component and the water treatment apparatus when the separable water treatment component is mounted to the apparatus, wherein the component is adapted to sanitize and/or clean one or more parts of the host apparatus.

51. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the electronic circuit of the component is integral with the component.

52. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 51, wherein the electronic circuit is embedded into or mounted onto the component.

53. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the electronic circuit of the component includes a database having characterising data relating to the component.

54. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the data of the component electronic circuit is encrypted.

55. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the component is a consumable replaceable unit.

56. (Cancelled)